

tions (a), (d), and (g) and adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(a) In addition to the jurisdiction provided by Section 25.0003 and other law, a county court at law in Harrison County has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court, on assignment of a district judge presiding in Harrison County, in:

- (1) family law cases and proceedings;
- (2) *felony cases other than capital murder cases; and*
- (3) *civil cases.*

(d) A party to a case assigned under Subsection (a) may request a jury of 12 persons if the party makes the request not later than the 30th day before the trial date. *Except as provided by Subsection (h), a [A] party who does not make a timely request under this subsection waives the right to request a 12-person jury and the case will proceed with a six-person jury.*

(g) The criminal district attorney is entitled to the same fees prescribed by law for prosecutions in the county court, *except that in cases assigned under Subsection (a), the criminal district attorney is entitled to the same fees prescribed by law for prosecutions in a district court.*

(h) *A jury must be composed of 12 members in:*

- (1) *any civil case pending in which the amount in controversy is \$200,000 or more; and*
- (2) *any felony case.*

SECTION 2. Section 25.1042(a), Government Code, as amended by this Act, and Section 25.1042(h), Government Code, as added by this Act, apply only to an action filed on or after the effective date of this Act. An action filed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the action was filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 15, 2015: Yeas 138, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 26, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 17, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

**SUBSTITUTION OF LAND WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF
THE HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 159 AFTER THE APPROVAL
OR ISSUANCE OF DISTRICT BONDS PAYABLE WHOLLY OR
PARTLY FROM TAXES**

CHAPTER 833

H.B. No. 4203

AN ACT

relating to the substitution of land within the boundaries of the Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 159 after the approval or issuance of district bonds payable wholly or partly from taxes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subtitle I, Title 6, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Chapter 9069 to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 9069. HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVE-
MENT DISTRICT NO. 159**

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 9069.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "district" means the Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 159.

Sec. 9069.002. FINDINGS OF PUBLIC PURPOSE AND BENEFIT. (a) The district is created to serve a public purpose and benefit.

(b) The district is created to accomplish the purposes of a water control and improvement district as provided by general law and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

SUBCHAPTER B. SUBSTITUTION OF LAND

Sec. 9069.051. SUBSTITUTING LAND OF AT LEAST EQUAL VALUE. After the district is organized and has obtained voter approval for the issuance of, or has sold, bonds payable wholly or partly from ad valorem taxes, land within the district boundaries subject to taxation that does not need or utilize the services of the district may be excluded and other land not within the boundaries of the district may be included within the boundaries of the district without impairment of the security for payment of the bonds or invalidation of any prior bond election, as provided by this section and Sections 54.740 through 54.747, Water Code.

Sec. 9069.052. CONSTRUCTION OF SUBCHAPTER. This subchapter shall be construed to supplement and not to supplant the provisions of general law applicable to the exclusion of land from the district or the inclusion of land within the district.

SECTION 2. (a) The legal notice of the intention to introduce this Act, setting forth the general substance of this Act, has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a copy of this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies, officials, or entities to which they are required to be furnished under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and Chapter 313, Government Code.

(b) The governor, one of the required recipients, has submitted the notice and Act to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

(c) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has filed its recommendations relating to this Act with the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives within the required time.

(d) All requirements of the constitution and laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 22, 2015: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 27, 2015: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Approved June 17, 2015.

Effective June 17, 2015.

**TRAINING FOR MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

CHAPTER 834

S.B. No. 24

AN ACT

relating to training for members of the governing board of a public institution of higher education.